

Amendments to the Specification:

Please insert the enclosed Sequence Listing into the specification.

At page 12, lines 29-30, please replace this paragraph with the following paragraph:

Figure 4 shows the Nucleotide Sequence (SEQ ID NO:1 and SEQ ID NO:2) and amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:3) of SNUT fragment.

At age 32, lines 16-31, please replace this paragraph with the following paragraph:

Based on analysis of the amino acid sequence and predicted structure of SrtA_{ΔN}, it was decided to amplify the region of amino acids 26 to 171 of the SrtA sequence. Amplification was conducted using the forward primer 5' TTTTGTAGATCTAAACCACATATCGAT (SEQ ID NO:4) and the reverse primer 5' TTTTGTGGATCCATCTAGAACTTCTAC (SEQ ID NO:5). This product was then digested with *Bgl*I and *Bam*HI and ligated into pQE30 vector which had also been digested with *Bam*HI to form the pSNUT vector. The ligation mix was transformed into TOP10F' cells and single colonies propagated on LB agar containing 100 μg/ml ampicillin. Clones with the *srtA* fragment in the correct orientation were screened by expression analysis and positive clones identified using the denaturing dot-blot assay described earlier.